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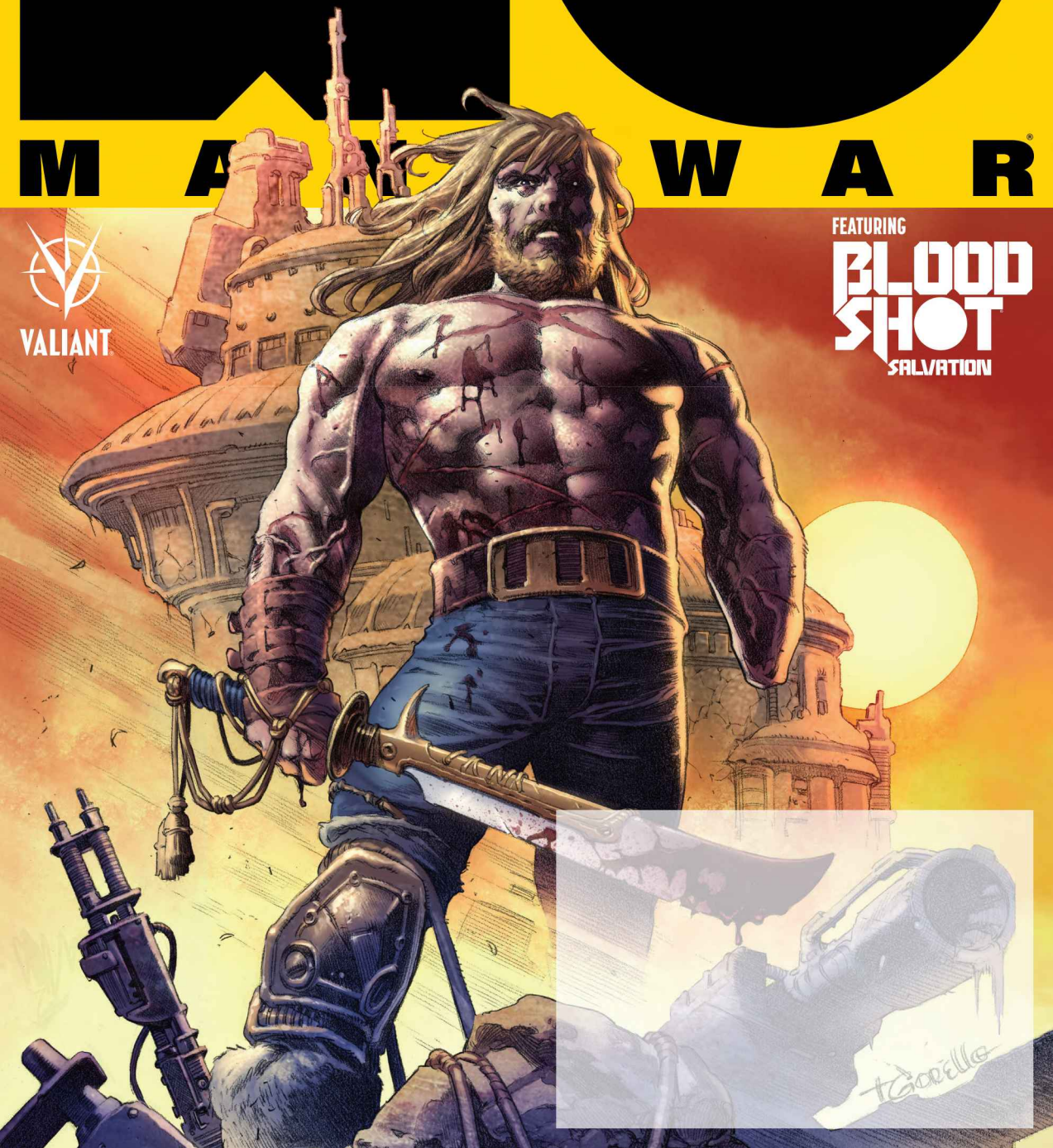
X-O MANOWAR®



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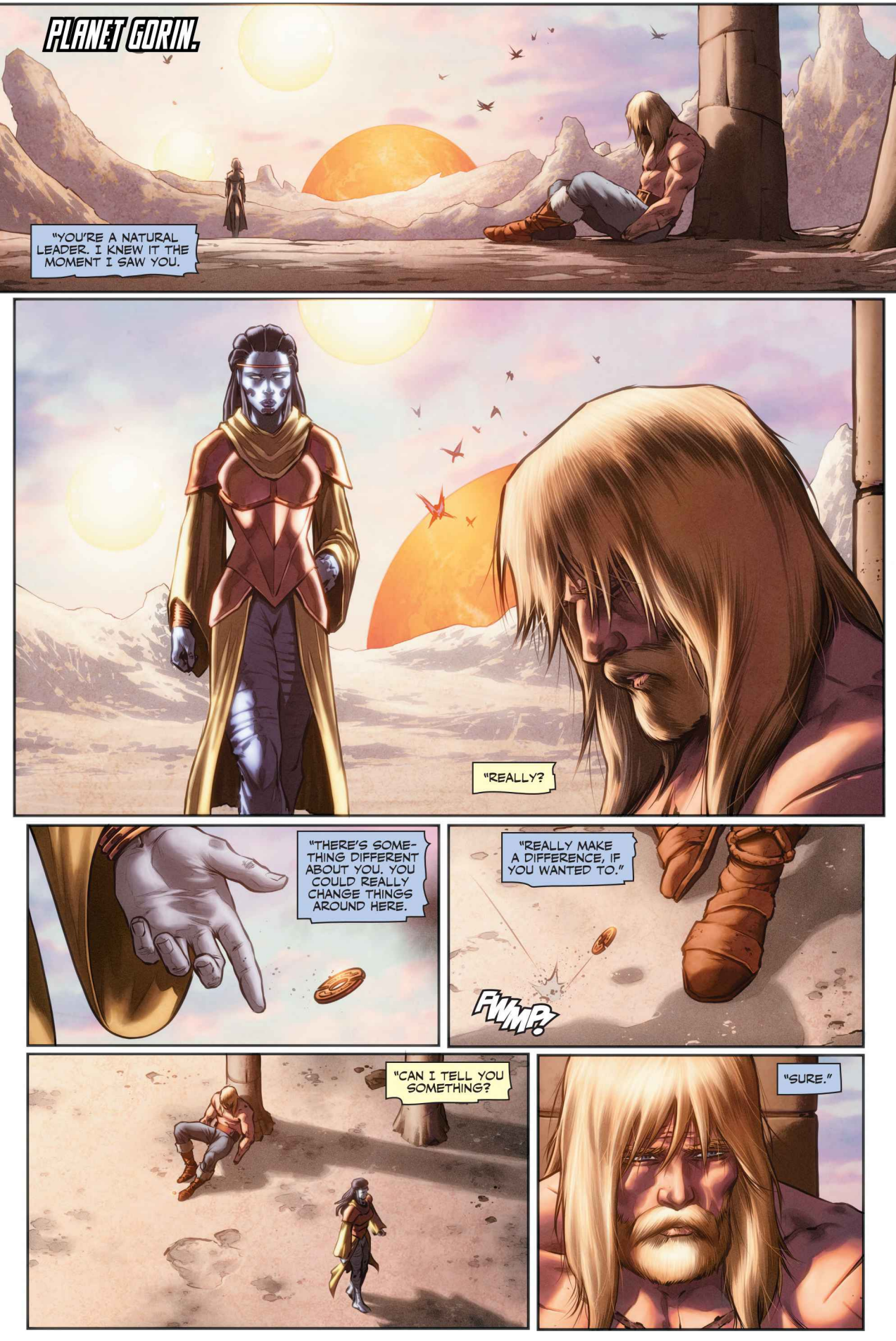

PLANET GORIN.
"YOU'RE A NATURAL LEADER. I KNEW IT THE MOMENT I SAW YOU.
"REALLY?
"THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT YOU. YOU COULD REALLY CHANGE THINGS AROUND HERE.
"REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE, IF YOU WANTED TO."
FWMP
"CAN I TELL YOU SOMETHING?
"SURE."

"IT'S A STORY. A STORY MY FATHER USED TO TELL ME."
WAR IS ON THE HORIZON AND THE EMPEROR REQUIRES ALL VILLAGES TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE WAR EFFORT!
MERCHANTS MUST CONTRIBUTE THEIR TREASURE AND FARMERS MUST CONTRIBUTE THEIR CROPS!
QUOTAS MUST BE MET! AZURE VILLAGES THAT DO NOT PRODUCE...?
"IT WAS ABOUT A MAN."
MUST BE USED AS AN EXAMPLE!
SHKKK!
"THIS MAN WAS PRAYING TO GOD ONE EVENING."
"HE WAS YOUNG. FULL OF LIFE. HE HAD THE WILL AND THE DRIVE TO CHANGE THE WORLD."
DESTROY THE TOWN.
DESTROY IT ALL-- WHAT? WHO ARE YOU?
YOU DARE APPROACH A SOLDIER OF THE AZURIAN GUARD, ALIEN?
"SO HE ASKED GOD TO GIVE HIM THE POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD. TO MAKE IT A BETTER PLACE."

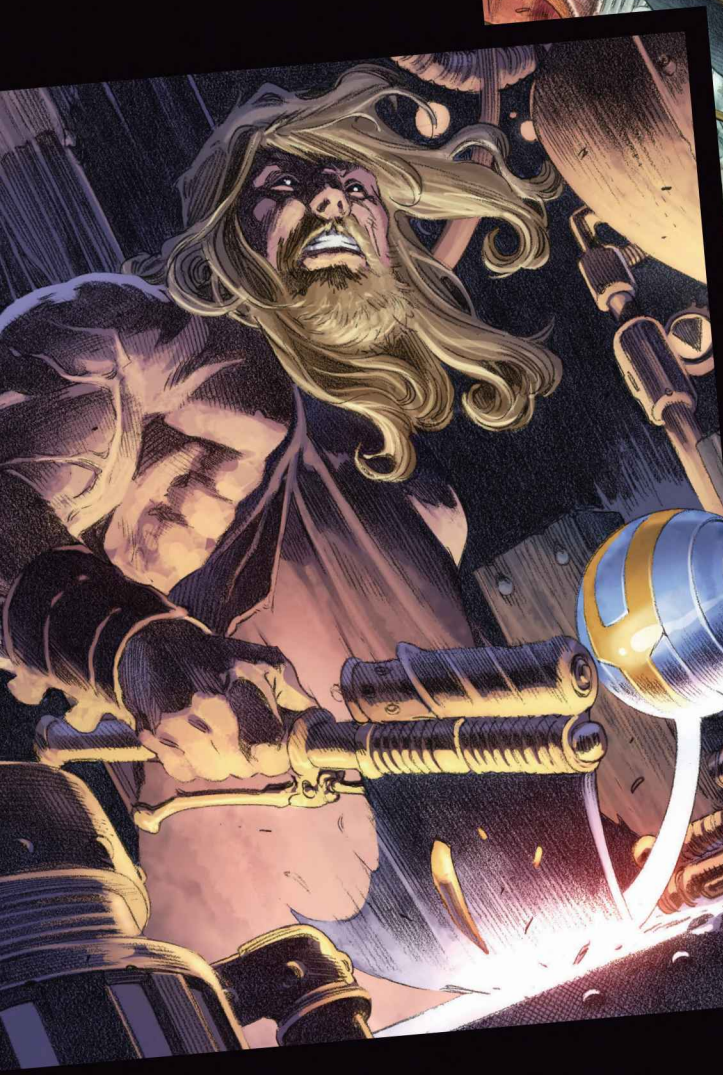
FWISSH!
CLK!
AGH--!
"YEARS LATER...THE MAN WAS OLDER. THE IDEA OF CHANGING THE WORLD SEEMED TOO MUCH. HE HAD A WIFE. A FAMILY. AND HE FELT LIKE HE'D DONE VERY LITTLE GOOD IN THE WORLD.
KEE-RAKKK!
"SO ONE NIGHT HE PRAYS TO GOD AGAIN. A MORE MODEST PRAYER.
"THIS TIME HE ASKS GOD TO GIVE HIM THE POWER JUST TO IMPROVE HIS FAMILY'S LIVES AND THOSE NEAR HIM. TO IMPROVE THEIR STATION."

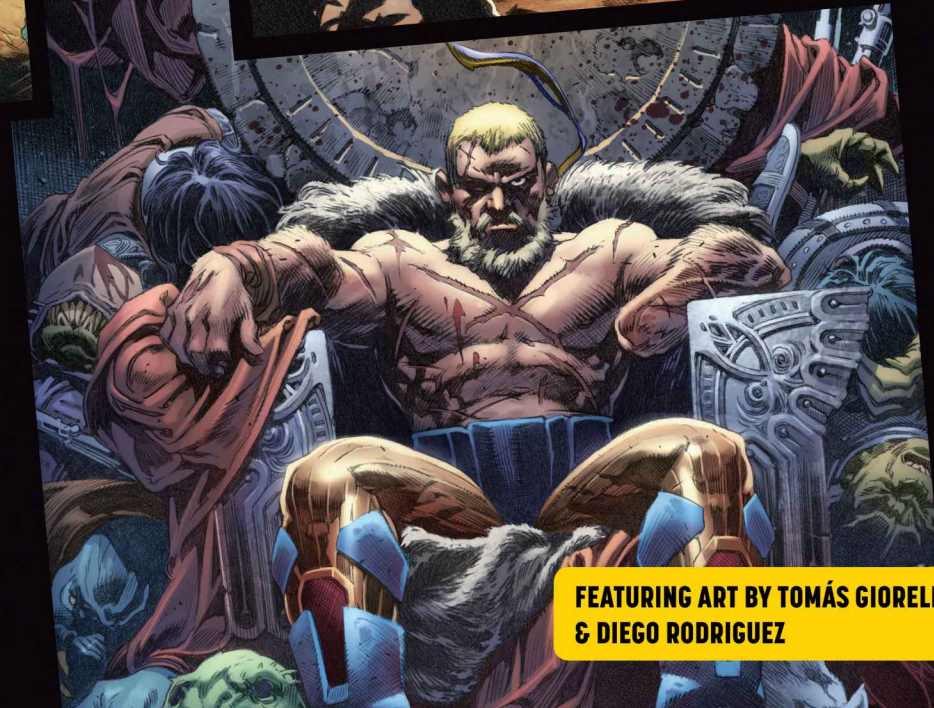
SHUK!
"YEARS GO BY. AND NOW THE MAN IS OLD. HIS FAMILY IS GONE..."
DON'T--!
"HE QUESTIONS EVERYTHING HE HAS DONE. WHO WAS HE TO THINK HE COULD--OR SHOULD--CHANGE THE WORLD OR EVEN HIS FAMILY?
SHKKK!
"SO THE MAN OFFERS UP ONE LAST DESPERATE PRAYER.
"THIS TIME HE ASKS GOD TO JUST GIVE HIM THE POWER TO CHANGE HIMSELF. TO IMPROVE HIMSELF.
"AND TO THE MAN'S ASTONISHMENT, GOD ANSWERS.
"AND HE SAYS TO THE MAN..."

IF ONLY YOU'D ASKED ME THAT IN THE BEGINNING. WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER, THERE MIGHT HAVE STILL BEEN TIME.
WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
SCHON.
I'M NOT HERE TO FIX THE WORLD'S PROBLEMS, SCHON.
IF THAT WAS TRUE, YOU WOULD HAVE JUST STOOD BY TODAY AND WATCHED.
I WAS IN YOUR DEBT.
ARIC.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
SHK
ARIC OF... EARTH.
WRITTEN BY MATT KINDT
ART BY CAFU
COLOR ART BY ANDREW DALHOUSE
LETTERED BY DAVE SHARPE
ASSISTANT EDITOR ROBERT MEYERS
EDITOR WARREN SIMONS
X0 MANOWAR #1 ON SALE NOW!

COMING THIS YEAR IN

X-O MANOWAR





FEATURING ART BY TOMÁS GIORELLO & DIEGO RODRIGUEZ

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SECRET WEAPONS

PREVIEW

ERIC HEISSERER
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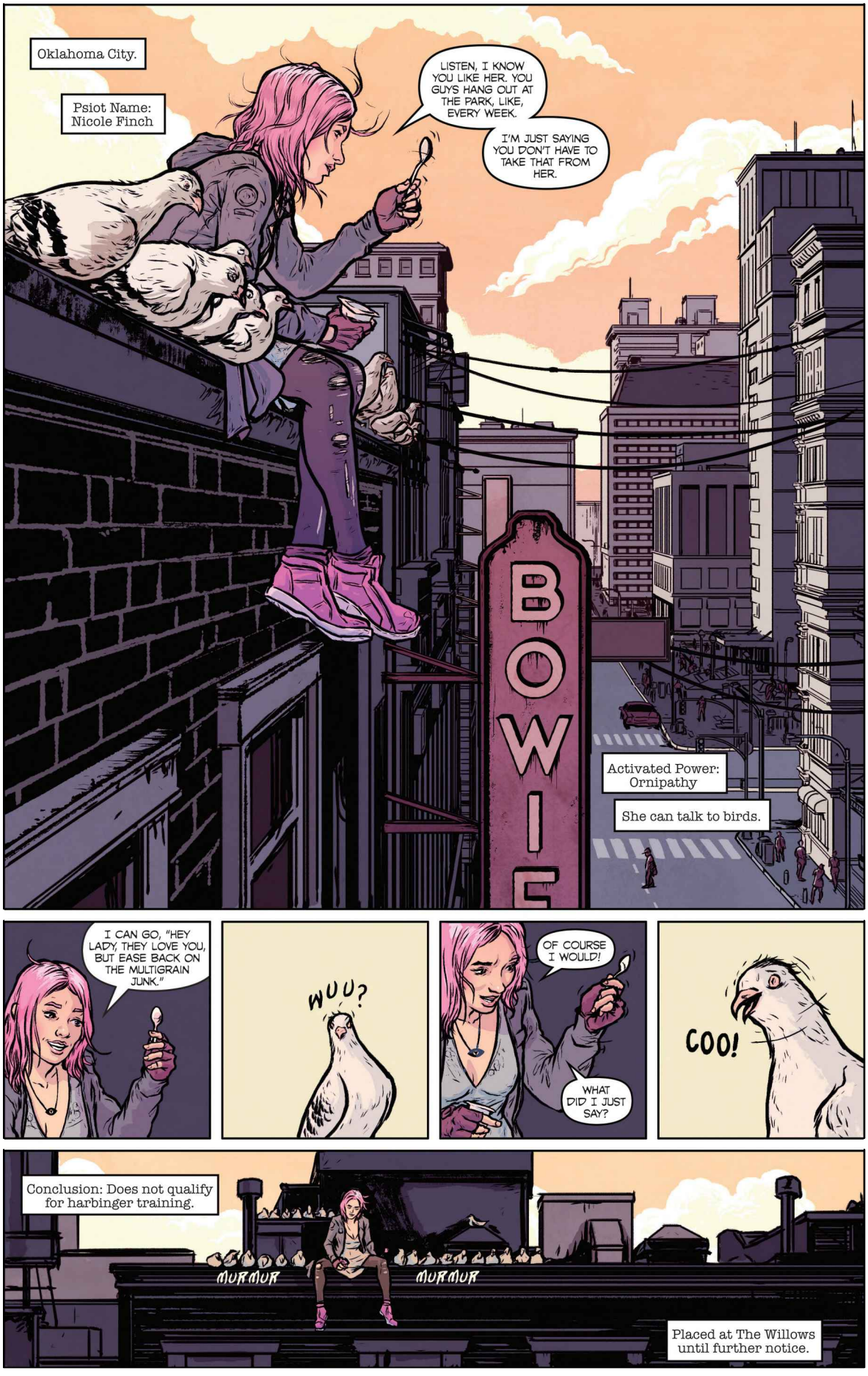
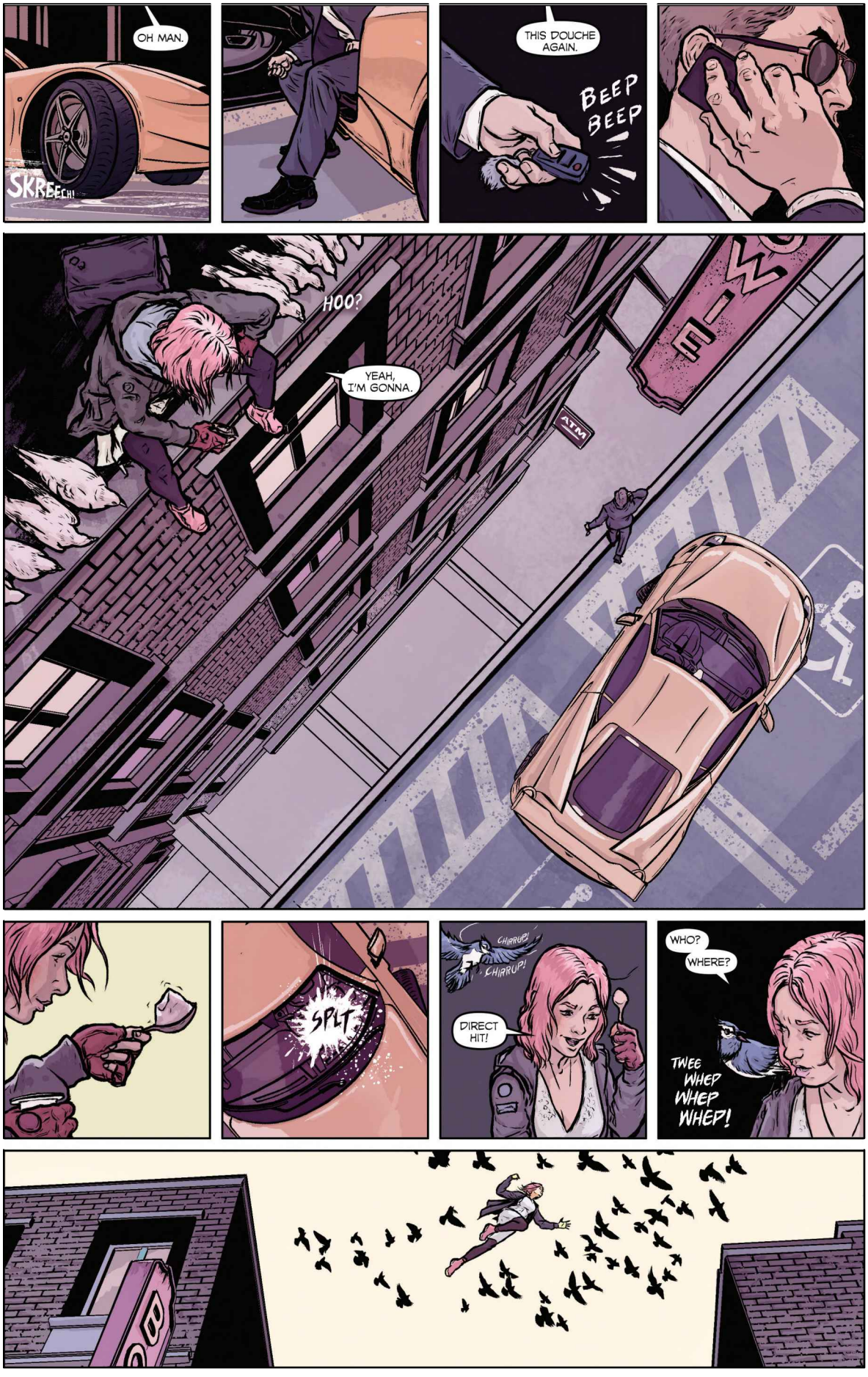
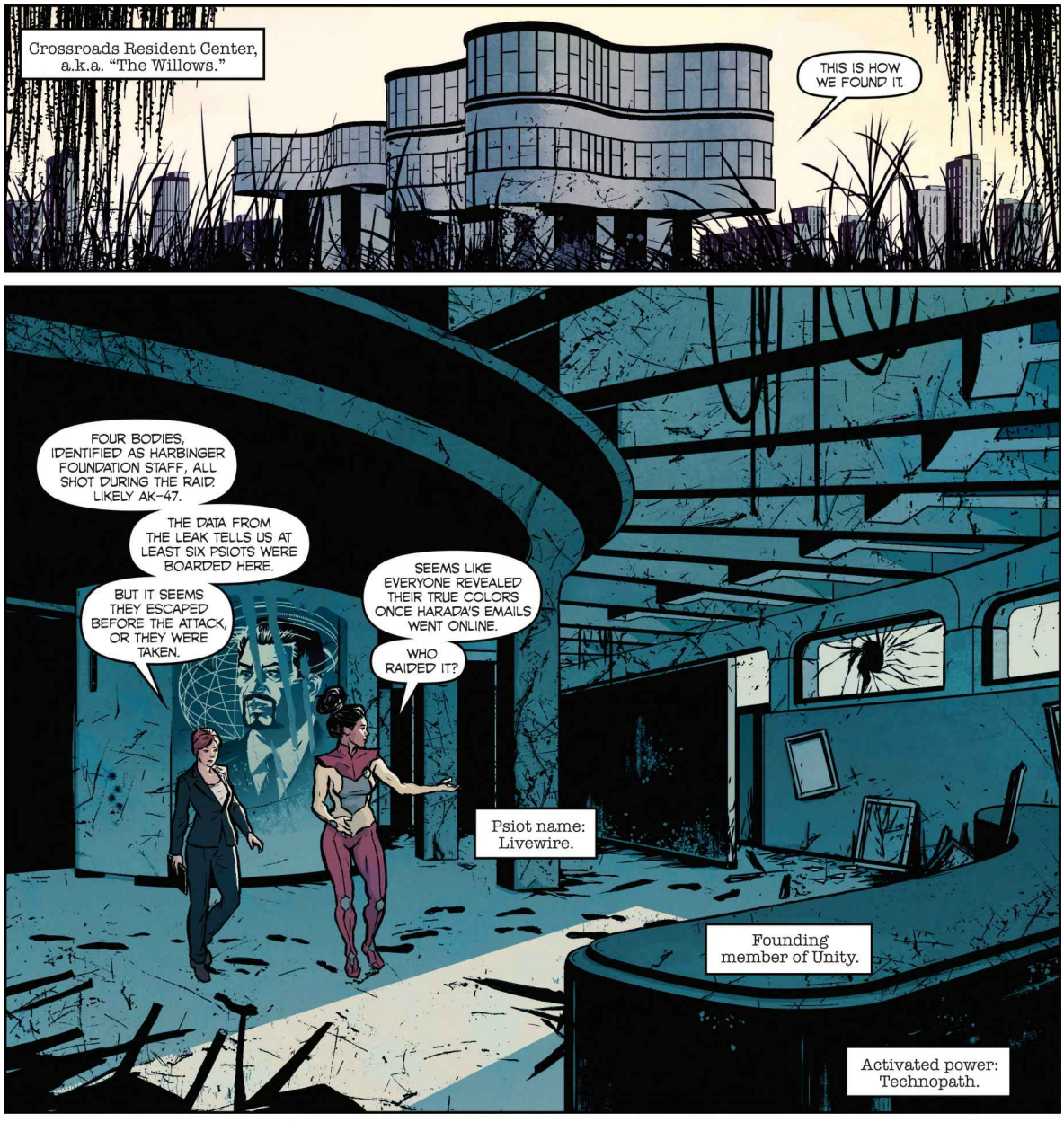

Oklahoma City.
Psiot Name: Nicole Finch
LISTEN, I KNOW YOU LIKE HER. YOU GUYS HANG OUT AT THE PARK, LIKE, EVERY WEEK.
I'M JUST SAYING YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THAT FROM HER.
BOWIE
Activated Power: Ornipathy
She can talk to birds.
I CAN GO, "HEY LADY, THEY LOVE YOU, BUT EASE BACK ON THE MULTIGRAIN JUNK."
WUU?
OF COURSE I WOULD!
WHAT DID I JUST SAY?
COO!
Conclusion: Does not qualify for harbinger training.
MURMUR
MURMUR
Placed at The Willows until further notice.


OH MAN.
SKREECH!!
THIS DOUCHE AGAIN.
BEEP BEEP
HOO?
YEAH, I'M GONNA.
ATM
SPLT
CHIRRUP!
CHIRRUP!
DIRECT HIT!
WHO?
WHERE?
TWEE WHEP WHEP WHEP!


Crossroads Resident Center, a.k.a. "The Willows."
THIS IS HOW WE FOUND IT.
FOUR BODIES, IDENTIFIED AS HARBINGER FOUNDATION STAFF, ALL SHOT DURING THE RAID. LIKELY AK-47.
THE DATA FROM THE LEAK TELLS US AT LEAST SIX PSIOTS WERE BOARDED HERE.
BUT IT SEEMS THEY ESCAPED BEFORE THE ATTACK, OR THEY WERE TAKEN.
SEEMS LIKE EVERYONE REVEALED THEIR TRUE COLORS ONCE HARADA'S EMAILS WENT ONLINE.
WHO RAIDED IT?
Psiot name: Livewire.
Founding member of Unity.
Activated power: Technopath.
LOCALS?
WE SUSPECT PROJECT RISING SPIRIT, BUT THEY'VE GONE DARK.
HONESTLY, ANYONE WHO KEPT READING THAT LIST OF HARADA'S ASSETS WOULD KNOW ABOUT THIS PLACE.
AND WHAT IS THIS PLACE, AGENT STEPHENS?
WE DON'T KNOW. THAT'S WHY HOMELAND FLEW YOU OUT HERE.
WE THOUGHT YOU WOULD.

HARADA NEVER MENTIONED IT. I DON'T THINK HE'S EVER BEEN TO OKLAHOMA.
HISTORICALLY, "THE WILLOWS" WAS THE NAME OF A HOME FOR UNWED MOTHERS TO GIVE UP THEIR UNWANTED CHILDREN FOR ADOPTION.
HOW MANY PSIOTS WERE STAYING HERE?
THE LEAK NAMES SIX, AND SUGGESTS MANY MORE HAVE BEEN THROUGH HERE.
I WAS HARADA'S LIEUTENANT. I CAN'T BELIEVE I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THIS PLACE BEFORE.
WHAT SECRET WAS HARADA HIDING?
DETECTING SOME TECH IN THIS ROOM.
HOLOGRAPHY. A PLAYBACK DEVICE.
I'M ACTIVATING IT.
OH, NO.

LAFUENTE
2017
House

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THE SEARCH BEGINS THIS WINTER
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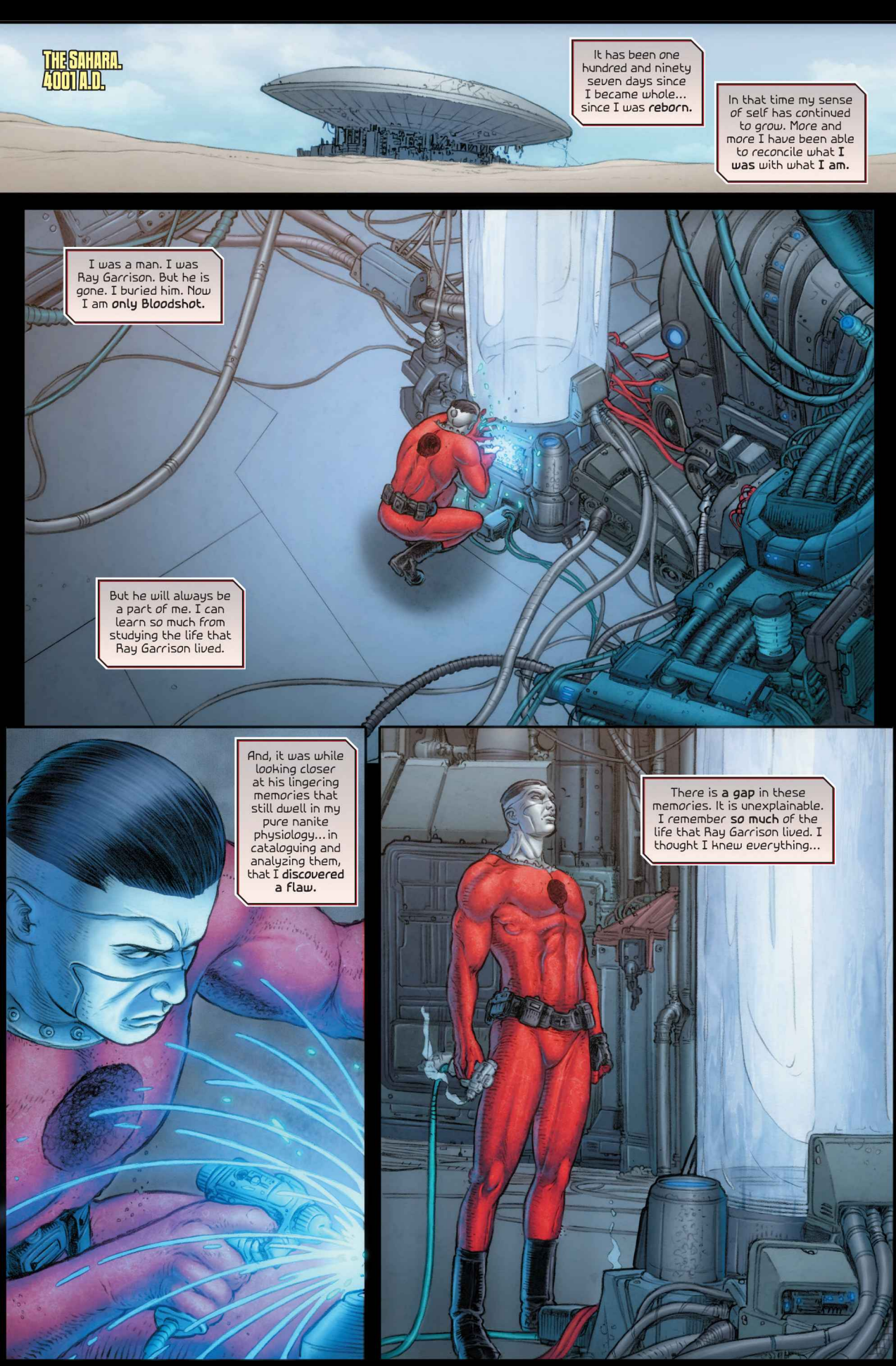

THE SAHARA.
4001 A.D.
It has been one hundred and ninety seven days since I became whole... since I was reborn.
In that time my sense of self has continued to grow. More and more I have been able to reconcile what I was with what I am.
I was a man. I was Ray Garrison. But he is gone. I buried him. Now I am only Bloodshot.
But he will always be a part of me. I can learn so much from studying the life that Ray Garrison lived.
And, it was while looking closer at his lingering memories that still dwell in my pure nanite physiology... in cataloguing and analyzing them, that I discovered a flaw.
There is a gap in these memories. It is unexplainable. I remember so much of the life that Ray Garrison lived. I thought I knew everything...

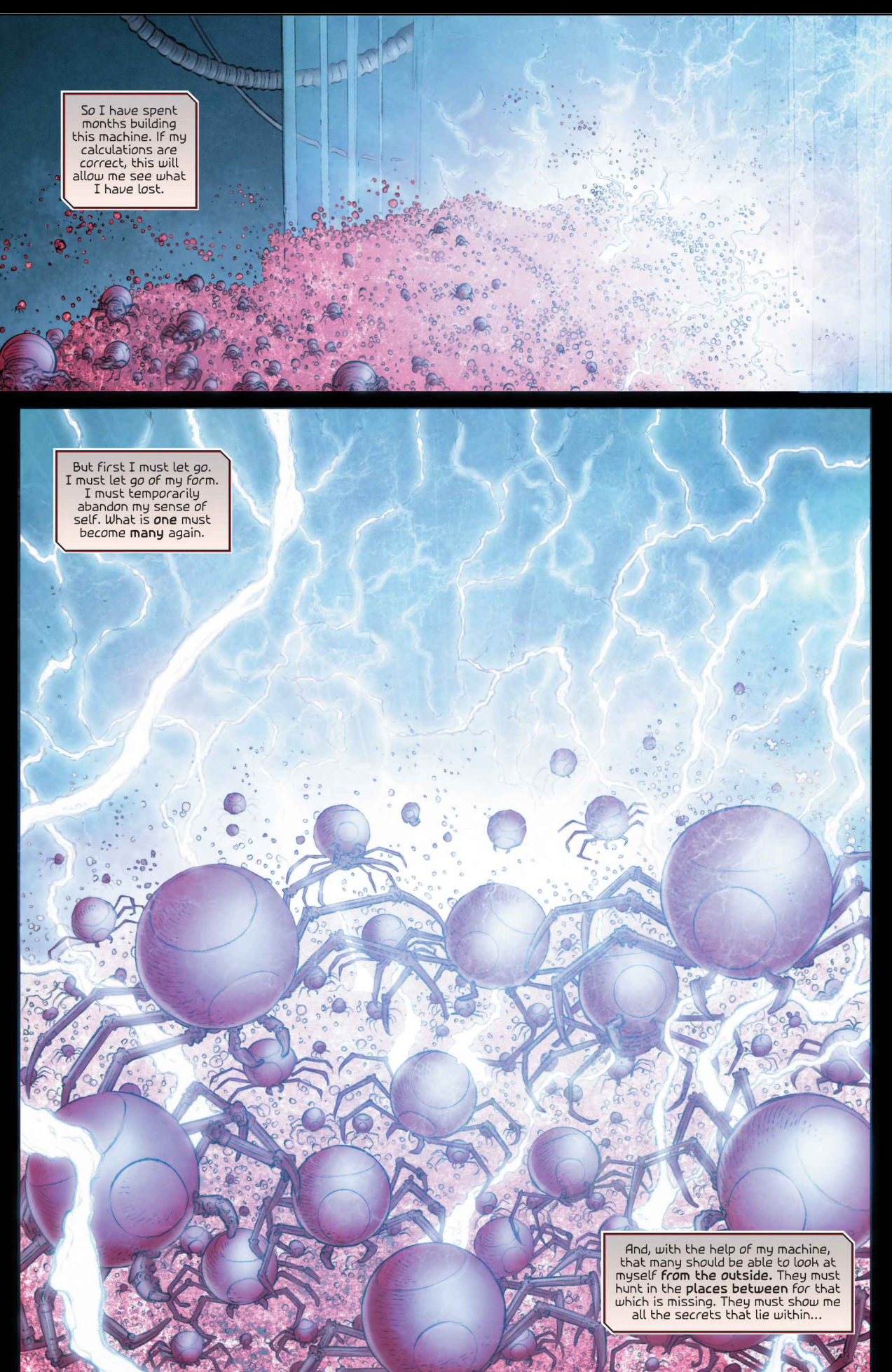
I know how I began... as a government experiment. A man infused with nanite technology. I was unkillable. I was made **more than a man.**

For a long time I was an agent of a government paramilitary agency called Project Rising Spirit. They controlled me and made me kill for them. Then I rebelled.

Project Rising Spirit set in motion their master plan to infect the civilian population with the very nanites that made me Bloodshot. They wanted to turn mankind into their own subservient army.

In time I met **others like me;** all the previous Bloodshots. And together we stood against our makers. We destroyed Project Rising Spirit and were **free at last.**

And after this war we embraced this freedom. I--or rather Ray Garrison--found peace with the woman he loved.
I also remember how my life ended. Hundreds of years later... all his wars behind him, Ray Garrision finally rested.
And **much** later, in **this** era, I was born from him. His body was long dead, but the Nanites within still lived. And these machines still held enough of his consciousness to reform... **into me.**
But there is so much I *do* not remember. All those years after I finally became free from Rising Spirit... before I grew old and died... they **are missing.** It as if the middle of my life has been **redacted.**
And this troubles me deeply.


So I have spent months building this machine. If my calculations are correct, this will allow me see what I have lost.
But first I must let go. I must let go of my form. I must temporarily abandon my sense of self. What is **one** must become **many** again.
And, with the help of my machine, that many should be able to look at myself **from the outside.** They must hunt in the **places between** for that which is missing. They must show me all the secrets that lie within...

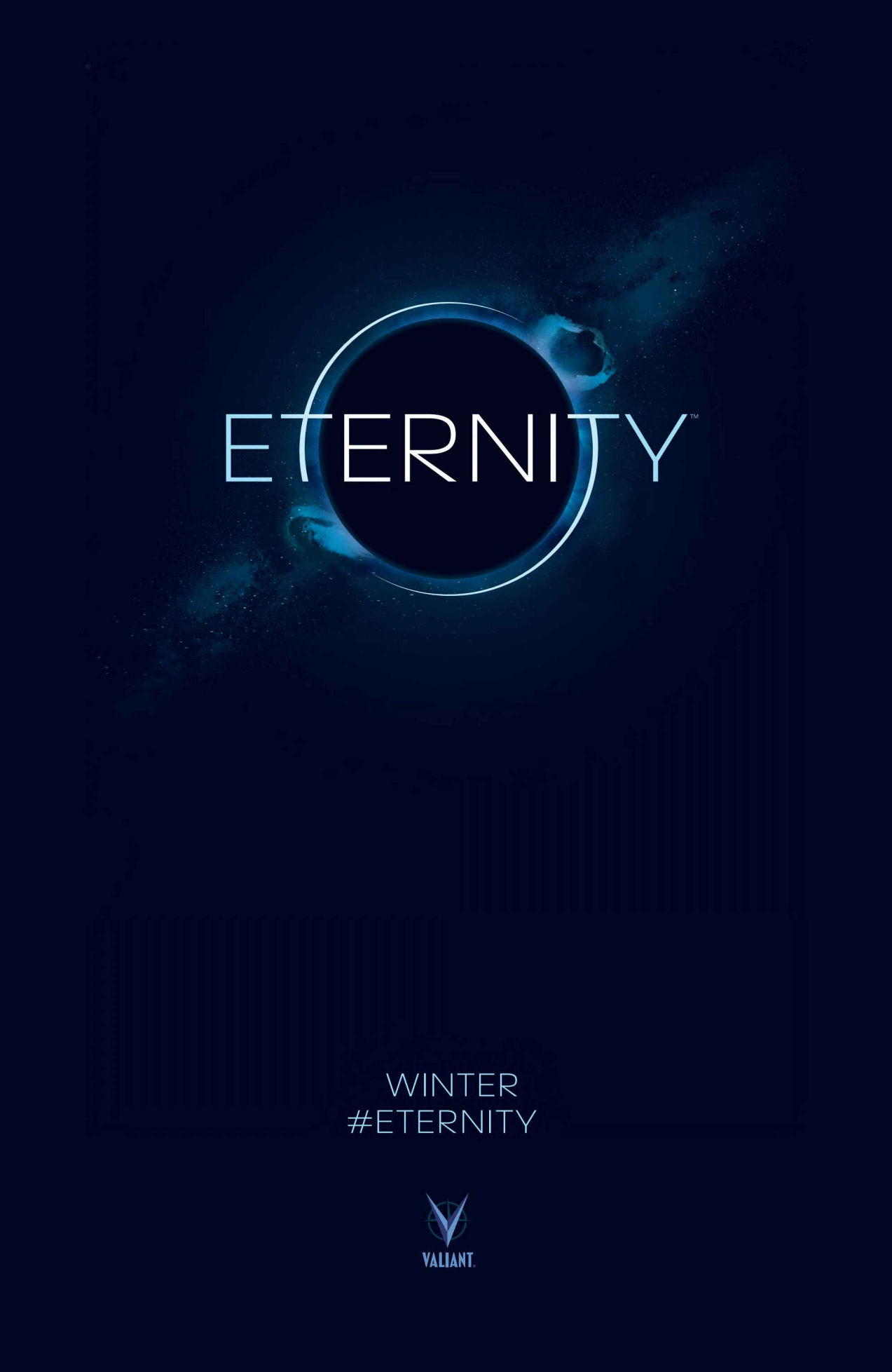
For what feels like an eternity there is nothing. Then shapes begin to form...

I see **love lost.**

I see **hatred** personified.

And there **is** death. So much death... and I also see what lies **after death.**

And there is also **life.** New life that will be hunted and **feared.** I--I do not know what will become of her...


ETERNITY™
WINTER
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I--I cannot--
I--NO!
SHRACK
In the nano-second before I was expelled from the machine... I saw--I saw **something terrible.**
And that girl. That girl, who was she? Was **she** the terrible thing?
The past. so uncertain now begins to reveal itself. But perhaps it was left buried? Perhaps I was never meant to see these things?

2018

#MEH

VALIANT.

Each day I learn more about myself. Each day I experience something new. And today...
... today I finally know fear.
Fear for Ray Garrison. Fear for Bloodshot. Fear that I may be too late to stop it all from happening again.
written by JEFF LEMIRE
art by JUAN JOSÉ RYP
color art by ANDREW DALHOUSE
lettered by SIMON BOWLAND
assistant editor ROBERT MEYERS
editor WARREN SIMON
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